

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1771

INFO AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 9628

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHY OF CHALO THAMMASIRI

REF: BANGKOK 9605

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING IS A BIOGRAPHY OF NEWLY APPOINTED BANGKOK GOVERNOR CHALO THAMMASIRI. END SUMMARY.

2. BANGKOK'S NEW GOVERNOR, CHALO THAMMASIRI, IS A VERY BRIGHT, RELATIVELY YOUNG CIVIL SERVANT. HE HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS DYNAMIC, PROGRESSIVE, AND EFFICIENT. HIS PREVIOUS POSTING WAS AS GOVERNOR OF CHIANG MAI. CONSULATE CHIANG MAI REPORTS THAT CHALO HAS BEEN A POPULAR AND COMPETENT GOVERNOR. HE HAS HAD FREQUENT CONTACTS WITH THE CONSULATE AND ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS HAS GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO BE OF ASSISTANCE. HE LIKES AMERICANS AND HIS SON IS NOW STUDYING IN THE UNITED STATES.

3. CHALO WAS BORN 1 FEBRUARY 1928 IN PHETBURI PROVINCE, AND HIS EARLY EDUCATION WAS THERE AND AT WAT BOWORNIWET IN BANGKOK. IN 1951 HE RECEIVED A B.A. IN PUBLIC RELATIONS FROM THAMMASAT, AND WAS COMMISSIONED AS A THIRD GRADE OFFICER IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. IN 1955
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HE RECEIVED HIS M.A. FROM THAMMASAT, AND WAS MADE A DISTRICT OFFICER IN PHRAE PROVINCE, AT THE AGE OF 29.

4. HIS OTHER ASSIGNMENTS WITH THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR HAVE INCLUDED: CHIEF, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SECTION; CHIEF, OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION (DOLA); MAYOR OF

SAMUT PRAKAN CITY, (SAMUT PRAKAN PROVINCE, ADJOINING BANGKOK); DIRECTOR OF THE DISTRICT OFFICER'S SCHOOL (NAI AMPHOE ACADEMY); AND DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF BANGKOK.

5. FROM 1971 UNTIL OCTOBER 1975 CHALO WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF DOLA, AN IMPORTANT POSITION WITHIN THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR. FROM OCTOBER 1975 UNTIL HIS APPOINTMENT AS BANGKOK GOVERNOR ON APRIL 29, CHALO WAS GOVERNOR OF CHIANG MAI.

6. CHALO IS CONSIDERED TO BE LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS' SCHOOL, AND WAS DIRECTOR FROM 1966 UNTIL 1971. FROM 1969 UNTIL 1971 HE WAS CONCURRENTLY DIRECTOR OF THE TRAINING DIVISION AT DOLA. CHALO WAS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FROM 1973 UNTIL 1975.

7. CHALO IS MARRIED AND HAS THREE CHILDREN. HE HOLDS THE COMMANDER (THIRD CLASS) OF THE MOST NOBLE ORDER OF THE CROWN OF THAILAND. HE ENJOYS GOLF AND GARDENING. WHITEHOUSE

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